

# Israeli Soldiers Seize Palestinian Journalists

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Israeli soldiers arrested two Palestinian journalists and their assistant today while they were covering anti-Israel street protests in Gaza City.

According to the Israeli Army, the three Palestinians were held for police investigation after refusing to leave an area that had been declared a closed military zone during the demonstrations. An army spokesman said the authorities were investigating whether the men had incited protesters.

Among them was **Taher Shriteh**, a Gazan who works for several foreign news organizations, including The New York Times, Reuters, CBS News and the BBC. In December, after having been seized in a mass roundup, Mr. Shriteh was nearly deported along with some 400 other men. At the last minute he was returned to Gaza. Also arrested today was Marwan al-Ghol, a cameraman for Reuters Television, and Mr. Ghol's brother, Ashraf, who was assisting them.

Mr. Shriteh, who has been arrested and held several times, was recently named winner of the Freedom of the Press Award for international reporting that is presented annually by the National Press Club in Washington.

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